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AN ACT to designate a certain segment of U.S. Highway 70S in Warren County as the "I.V. Hillis, Jr. Highway".

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

WHEREAS, from time to time, this General Assembly has seen fit to name public highways in honor of those exemplary citizens who have elevated the precepts of public service to a higher level; and

WHEREAS, no person can be more deserving of receiving such an honor than Representative I.V. Hillis, Jr., a citizen and public servant of the greatest industry, probity, dedication and compassion for his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, I.V. Hillis Jr. a native of Warren County, was elected by his fellow citizens to serve them as their 43rd District delegate in the Tennessee House of Representatives from 1970 through 1994, at which time he chose to retire from service in the General Assembly and did not seek re-election; and

WHEREAS Representative Hillis discharged his office with intelligence, vision, sound judgment, unfailing courage and unquestioned integrity, and was both an exponent and exemplar of the noble personal values and the social ideals of the citizens of goodwill in the 43rd District and across Tennessee; and

WHEREAS he provided effective and determined leadership in scores of major legislative initiatives for the benefit of the people of Tennessee, most notably in: 1) improving public education, promoting the equality of educational opportunity from the state's largest metropolises to the most rural areas, and assuring adequate, dependable funding of the

Tennessee Education Improvement Act of 1992, a model for school reform across the nation; 2) developing and sponsoring measures to reduce or eliminate pollutants in the state's rivers, lakes and streams, and protecting the quality of the state's water, land and air; 3) advancing the interests and safeguarding the rights of America's war veterans, and promoting the construction and operation of state-operated nursing homes for veterans as well as state-operated cemeteries for veterans and their spouses; 4) vigorously promoting local business, industry and job creation by supporting construction of modern four-lane highways serving Warren County, including the replacement of US Highway 70S with a safe, efficient thoroughfare, and 5) ensuring the future viability and competitive standing of the nursery industry by supporting the creation of the Tennessee State University Nursery Experiment Station; and

WHEREAS, Representative Hillis has, throughout his legislative career, been continuously attentive to and supportive of the needs of the communities he represented, and has offered superlative cooperation and assistance to his constituents; and

WHEREAS, the Warren County Commission has expressed a desire to name a certain segment of U.S. Highway 70S in honor of I.V. Hillis, as a means of appropriately expressing and conveying to this outstanding public servant, on behalf of a grateful citizenry, the sincere and emphatic gratitude of his community; and

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly wish to heartily concur in this glowing endorsement and commendation of Representative Hillis' sterling career, and by doing so, comply with the will of the good people of Warren County; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, that newly constructed segment of U.S. Highway 70S in Warren County from near such highway's intersection with the State Route 30 at approximately mile marker no. 17 northeasterly to the Warren County - White County boundary is hereby designated as the "I.V. Hillis, Jr. Highway" in honor of this remarkable man's life of purpose and commitment to exemplary public service and superlative citizenship.

SECTION 2. That the Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable signs or to affix suitable markers designating such segment of U.S. Highway 70S in Warren County as the "I.V. Hillis, Jr. Highway".

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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